volume 98, issue 2 october 28th, 2024

THE ANCHOR

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT RUN NEWSPAPER

Inkwell Hosts Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball

Kayden Meza

Anchor Contributor

If you don't already know, Inkwell is a club at Rhode Island College that focuses on community building. Inkwell has a penpal system called"ghost letters," through which two people share anonymous letters with the intent of discovering one another's identities and learning more about each other. In addition to this, the club has "spirit events" and games. Spirit events are open to all RIC students, those a part of Inkwell and not, as well as non-RIC guests. Some past events have been The Jeapers and Jebus Obstacle Course, Capture the Ghost and recently their Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball.

Spirit games are only available to Inkwell members, but non-members can sign up at the check-in desk. Games in the past have included Masquerade Mask Making. The next spirit game will take place on Nov. 5, though it has yet to be determined what it will be.

Last Tuesday the Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball was hosted at the Student Union Ballroom. Outside of the event, there were decorated masks with feathers, jewels and glitter for incoming guests to choose from. Upon entering, you were transported to a 1920s jazz speakeasy decorated with draping fabrics, table cloths and backdrops depicting a darkly lit bar. The guests then assumed the roles they were given prior to the event. These roles included a rich heiress, a jazz musician, a mysterious butler and of course an unsuspected killer.

Image via Pixabay

The event provided a self-service buffet including roasted potatoes, pasta, bread rolls and garden salad. Also, a bartender served Shirley Temples with the choice of Sprite or ginger ale, both of which were a hit with guests. My only complaint was that the potatoes were gone too soon. After enjoying the food and beverages, the true fun began.

The guests began to explore the event, holding onto their friends for safety against potential killers. Main role guests were given papers outlining the tasks they had to complete. These tasks included talking to other main characters, gossiping about another character or finding clues. Background characters created their own character and could help the main characters with their tasks. Halfway through the night, a scream rang through the ball, "Felix is dead! Come, hurry outside." Everyone beelined for the exit to find Felix sprawled on the pavement outside of the ballroom.

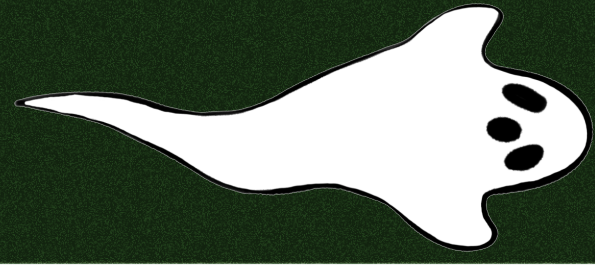
Act 2 commenced after this. The main characters stayed outside to get their new tasks while the background characters hurried back inside. Questions and accusations were thrown around. Everyone was either a suspect or the next victim. (Continued on anchorweb.org)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEWS ..... PAGES 3-5
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT ..... PAGES 6-7
OPINIONS ..... PAGES 8-9
SPORTS ..... PAGE 10
FUN AND COMICS ..... PAGE 11
CALENDAR ..... PAGE 12

HOW TO REACH US

INSTAGRAM ..... RICTHEANCHOR
EIC ..... EDITORINCHIEF@ANCHORWEB.ORG
WEBSITE ..... ANCHORWEB.ORG



EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Olivia Barone |
editorinchief@anchorweb.org

MANAGING EDITOR
Kelcy Conroy |
managing@anchorweb.org

BUSINESS MANAGER
Cai Garant |
business@anchorweb.org

ART DIRECTOR
Cassie Frechette |
artdirector@anchorweb.org

NEWS EDITOR
Mel Rising Dawn Cordeiro |
news@anchorweb.org

ASST. NEWS EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_news@anchorweb.org

A&E EDITOR
Rachel Curti |
arts@anchorweb.org

ASST. A&E EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_lifestyles@anchorweb.org

OPINIONS EDITOR
Roman Kavanagh |
opinions@anchorweb.org

ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_opinions@anchorweb.org

SPORTS EDITOR
Tim Yean |
sports@anchorweb.org

ASST. SPORTS EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_sports@anchorweb.org

PHOTO EDITOR
Meg Tancrede |
photo@anchorweb.org

SENIOR LAYOUT EDITOR
Elias Frawley Gendron |
layout@anchorweb.org

ASST. LAYOUT EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_layout@anchorweb.org

SENIOR COPY EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
copy@anchorweb.org

ASST. COPY EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_copy@anchorweb.org

GRAPHICS EDITOR
Danielle Scaramuzzi |
graphics@anchorweb.org

ASST. PHOTO EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_photo@anchorweb.org

TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR
Pamela Montes |
technology@anchorweb.org

ASST. GRAPHICS EDITOR
NOW HIRING! |
asst_@anchorweb.org

ONLINE MEDIA MANAGER
Lexi Medeiros |
media@anchorweb.org

ADS MANAGER
NOW HIRING! |
ads@anchorweb.org

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
Lisa DeMeo |
socialmedia@anchorweb.org

FACULTY ADVISOR
Dr. R. Anthony Galvez
rgalvez@ric.edu

Anchor Staff

Alana Carroll
Alex Celico
Dally Dixon
Jasmin Lively
Kayden Meza
William Fernandes

Contact Us:

Editor-in-Chief
Olivia Barone
editorinchief@anchorweb.org

PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR
Steph Machado
The Boston Globe

LEGALITIES: The Anchor is student-run and published weekly during the academic year. Editorial decisions for The Anchor are made by a majority vote of its student editorial board. No form of censorship will be imposed by the college. Any material found to be unsuitable or unacceptable in the board's opinion will not be published. The views expressed in The Anchor, unless otherwise noted, are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent those of The Anchor or of Rhode Island College's faculty, administration or student body. The Anchor is not funded by and is independent from Rhode Island College. The first copy is free. Each additional copy is $2.25. Newspaper racks on the Rhode Island College campus are the property of The Anchor Newspaper. Only The Anchor Newspaper publication will be permitted on these racks. Any other publication or advertisement that is placed on the racks will be given one (1) warning for violating this policy. After two (2) violations, the business/publication will be billed at the rate of a full page advertisement. Copyright © 2023 The Anchor. All rights reserved.

NEWS

Vance and Walz square off
Mel Rising Dawn Cordeiro
News Editor

The vice presidential debate has historically served as a critical platform for candidates to define their positions, showcase their readiness for office, and provide voters with insight into the potential future leadership of the country. As the 2024 election looms, the stakes have never been higher, and the recent vice presidential debate highlighted key issues that resonate with the electorate.

This highly anticipated debate between Republican candidate JD Vance and Democratic candidate Tim Walz was a civil and relatively restrained conversation about the issues America cares most about. Each candidate spent more time attacking the other's running mate than the other, though each expressed a sense of empathy; Vance apologized to Walz when Walz said that his son witnessed a shooting and both expressed sympathies to the victims of Hurricane Helene.

Unlike the Trump Harris debate, Vance and Walz were able to talk about more than just immigration. Vance advocated for tax cuts and deregulation to spur economic growth, while Walz emphasized the importance of social programs and equitable policies to support marginalized communities. Each candidate was also asked about times when they verbally misrepresented themselves or their running mate.

It was agreed upon at the beginning of the debate that there would be no fact-checking while the debate was going on. During the discussion on migration, Vance was commenting on the immigration population of Springfield, Ohio when a moderator clarified that there are a significant number of Hatian immigrants in Springfield with temporary protected status. Vance interrupted, saying that he thought there was going to be no fact-checking, but "since you are fact checking [me], it's important to say what's actually going on." Vance then explained how the CBP application works to aid immigrants in applying for asylum and parole. NPR later fact-checked the claims both candidates made.

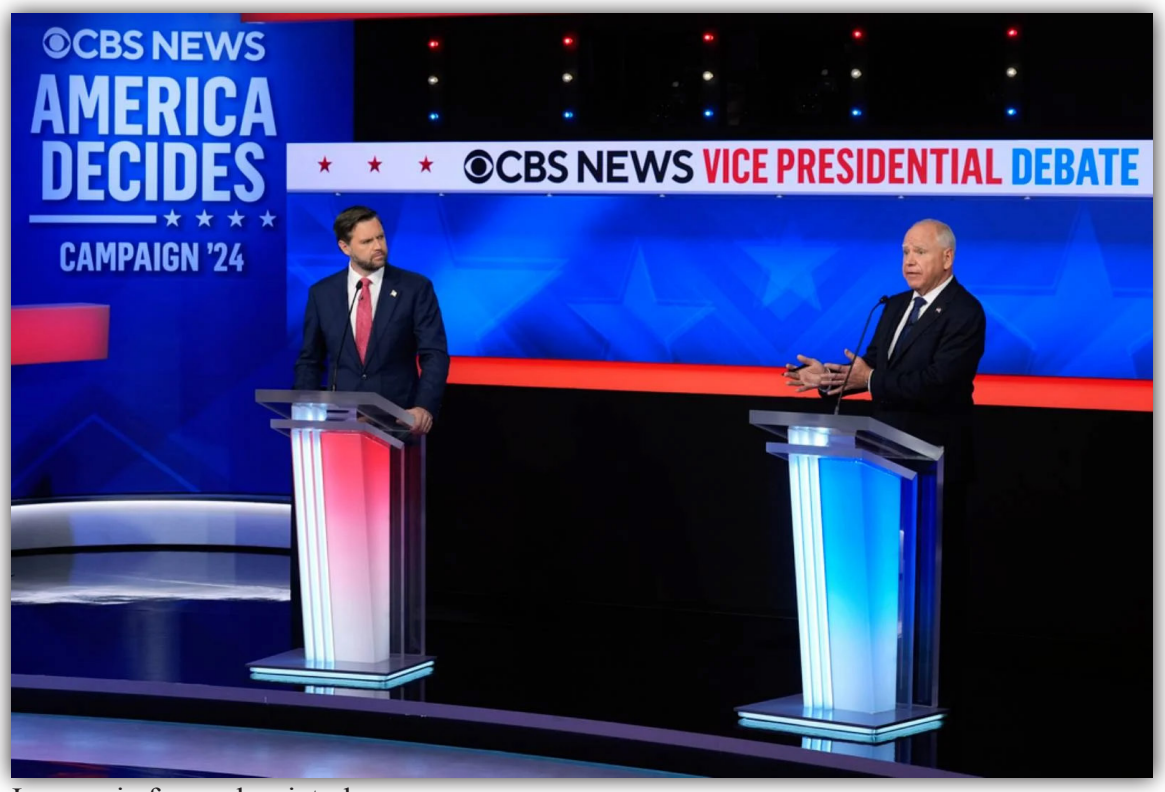


Image via freemalaysiatoday.com

There were several moments when both candidates agreed with each other on issues and were open about it. This became evident when they discussed gun control. Each candidate did their fair share of dodging questions, though the most notable one, which turned into a vigorous disagreement, came when Vance was asked if Trump lost the last presidential election. Vance dodged the question and instead criticized what he said was Kamala Harris's censorship. Walz quickly noted that Vance gave a "damning non-answer" and said that denying the January 6th (Continued on anchorweb.org)

Federal Funding Secured to Support Latino Students
Mel Rising Dawn Cordeiro
News Editor

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse has announced $226,000 in federal funding to enhance Latino college students' success at Rhode Island College. This initiative, part of a broader effort to increase educational opportunities for underserved communities, will provide essential resources and support systems to help Latino students thrive academically.

This funding will facilitate various programs focused on improving retention and graduation rates among Latino students, ensuring they receive the assistance necessary to navigate their college experience. Senator Whitehouse emphasized the importance of investing in education to promote equity and access to higher education.

President Jack Warner expressed gratitude for the support, highlighting its potential to create a more inclusive environment and bolster student success. The funding reflects a commitment to addressing the educational disparities Latino students face and fostering a diverse academic community.

Image via Pixabay

RIC, having received this designation in 2022, is the first higher education institution in Rhode Island to receive the Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) designation. This recognition is granted to colleges where at least 25% of the student population identifies as Hispanic or Latinx. Eligibility must be met annually.

HSI status is a recognition of RIC's growing student diversity and its dedication to expanding access to higher education for all Rhode Islanders. HSIs tend to serve high concentrations of diverse populations that have historically been underrepresented in higher education, have high percentages of low-income students, and serve a large number of first-generation college students. Nearly 40% of undergraduates identify as people of color and nearly half identify as the first in their families to attend college, the school educates the most economically, culturally and racially diverse cross-section of Rhode Islanders of any four-year institution in the state. The exact number for the school year beginning in Fall 2024 is unavailable at the time of publication due to the administration not having finished processing admission rates.

"One of Rhode Island College's greatest strengths is the diversity (Continue on anchorweb.org)

NEWS

Mixed opinions on proposed Providence bus terminal

Alana M. Carroll
Staff Writer

The parcel on I-195 is no longer being considered as a location for the proposed Providence bus hub. The idea to replace Kennedy Plaza as the signature transit center for the state is not a new idea but a slow-moving one with suggestions being made since 2014. On October 21, the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) confirmed that the location is out of the running, though also stated that their plans on choosing a location to build the terminal are far from over.

Image via goprovidence.com

Kennedy Plaza has been used as a bus stop and a central hub for the city for many years; dubbed "Exchange Place" in 1848, the plaza is actually older than Providence City Hall. Buses have been servicing the plaza since 1983. Despite the location's history, many believe that changing Kennedy Plaza from the main bus center to an optional stop would benefit RIPTA and the city of Providence.

Providence police intercepted a violent altercation in Kennedy Plaza at the beginning of October, the most recent of numerous violent and unlawful incidents at the bus terminal. A fight previously broke out between two school-aged girls with over 60 adolescents and teens gathering around to watch, some even involving themselves in the violence. Approximately two weeks before that, a woman was struck in the head with a brick as she was boarding one of the RIPTA buses.

Aside from being a hot spot for physical and verbal conflict, the area is frequented by people under the influence of drugs and administering them in public. On Sept. 23, Providence Mayor Brett Smiley announced the arrest of 22 individuals who were caught using Kennedy Plaza to traffic illicit substances. Similar "drug busts" have happened over the past decade, though a "safe injection site" is set to open in December to hopefully lower the frequency of public substance use.

A spokesperson for Smiley has emphasized his ambivalence toward the development of a new bus terminal, though Smiley "looks forward to seeing the final location considered." Many vehemently oppose the efforts being made; the Providence City Council Ordinance Committee voted in favor of an amendment opposing a new terminal, emphasizing that not everybody is as neutral on the proposition as Smiley.

"Rather than pouring money into a new, less desirable location, RIPTA should invest in making Kennedy Plaza clean, safe, modern, and sustainable," said Providence City Council member Justin Roias.

According to the RIPTA website, "Kennedy Plaza is ultimately a public park," which gives them "limited opportunities to improve transit within the plaza."

Some agree with the opposition and would like to keep Kennedy Plaza as the main terminal. "It's easy to read the signs and find which bus I need to take," says Relena Trudel, a Providence resident who uses the bus to travel to and from school, "and the stops themselves are nicely spaced and convenient to get to."

Trudel's opinions seem to align with those of the committee; when asked how she felt about replacing Kennedy Plaza as the main spot for bus transit, Trudel responded negatively. "I don't like the idea. I like how it is now because it makes getting to and from my classes easy, and I don't want to try to learn new routes."

Whether or not the transit center will be finalized remains to be seen, though the RIPTA interim CEO Chris Durant reassures Rhode Island commuters that the plaza "will continue to maintain a presence in Kennedy Plaza while improving (Continued on anchorweb.org)

Bank closures continue

Mel Rising Dawn Cordeiro
News Editor

Last week, Citizens Bank announced the closure of 15 branches around the country, one of which includes the Newport Ave location in Rumford. Representatives from Citizens Bank said in an emailed statement that they have "been on a journey at Citizens to evolve how our customers bank with us, and we continually review customer patterns to evolve and adjust branch strategy across our network." For the second quarter of the fiscal year 2024, Citizens Bank had closed 77 physical branches. This closing, which will be reported for the third quarter, means that Citizens Bank is responding to and trying to recover from the setback.

The closing of this one branch may not substantially impact Rhode Islanders, but Citizens Bank has noticeably joined a country-wide trend in bank closures. TD Bank closed seven branch locations in Massachusetts just last month. Bank of America has closed 66 locations this year, too, with five of those locations in Massachusetts and four in Connecticut.

However, bank failures and closures are not new trends. Since the pandemic, financial institutions have not been faring well. Local and national banks all took hits due to the state of the economy. This does not mean that banks have stopped serving customers, it just means that banks will invest more in their digital presence and service customers on phone applications and through customer service calls instead.

There are a number of reasons why bank branches may close. For example, a larger bank may buy out a smaller bank, causing a merger, a bank may be financially unstable and may not have the opportunity to be bailed out, or there may not be enough foot traffic at a location. If a local branch is closing, the accounts it holds are safe as it is just the physical location that is closing. Customers are notified via notice approximately 90 days before closure and will be advised as to what steps they need to take, if any. If the bank corporation is going out of business, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, known as the FDIC, will oversee the closure.

The Rumford location is set to close in January 2025, leaving 51 branch locations in RI.

Image via flickr.com

NEWS

Federal Funding Secured to Support Latino Students

Mel Rising Dawn Cordeiro
News Editor

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) held a second public meeting on October 17, 2024, following backlash from the community regarding the first meeting held earlier this month. Critics argued that the initial session could have been better organized and adequately addressed public concerns about ongoing transportation projects. The initial meeting only ran for about eight minutes.

In response to the feedback, RIDOT aimed to create a more inclusive environment for community members to voice their opinions and ask questions. This meeting intended to focus on gathering input and ensuring transparency in the decision-making process related to local infrastructure.

RIDOT officials acknowledged the frustrations and emphasized their commitment to transparency, promising to provide more frequent updates as the project progresses. Community members are eager for improvements to ensure the bridge meets safety standards and minimizes disruption.

In addition, residents are growing increasingly frustrated with RIDOT following the extended timeline for the Washington Bridge project. Originally scheduled for completion earlier, the delays announced by Attorney General Peter Neronah have raised concerns about safety and accessibility in the community.

Some lawmakers are frustrated, too. The Rhode Island General Assembly is set to conduct oversight hearings on the Washington Bridge project amid ongoing concerns from residents and officials. Lawmakers are focusing on the delays and challenges associated with the demolition and construction phases of the project, which has impacted traffic on westbound Interstate 95 in East Providence.

During the hearings, legislators aim to address public concerns regarding the project's management by RIDOT and seek answers about the timeline for completion. The hearings reflect growing frustration within the community over the lack of communication and transparency from the agency. Lawmakers are committed to ensuring that residents' voices are heard as they push for improved oversight and accountability in infrastructure projects.

Work is set to resume on Tuesday, October 22. RIDOT has issued the following reminders:

• Waterfront Drive in East Providence will be closed for a week

• Gano Street in Providence will be closed overnight on Sundays through Thursdays with hammering lasting about three more nights

At the time of publication, no one from Gov. McKee's office, the Attorney General's office or RIDOT was available for comment. Should anyone become available, this article will be updated.

Image via en.wikipedia.org

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

“Terrifer 3” shocks viewers
Kayden Meza
Anchor Contributor

Spoilers for the 2024 release “Terrifer 3” to follow.

Last weekend “Terrifer 3” came out in theaters. It is the third movie in the Terrifer franchise. If you don’t know about this franchise, here is a quick rundown before you go see it. The franchise’s villain is Art the Clown, an animated, mute and sadistic clown dressed in a black and white costume. All three movies occur in a fictional small town called Miles County, New York. The first movie follows Victoria and her sister, Tara, on Halloween night as Art the Clown chases them down. Tara and many others are slaughtered by the end of the film. Before the police can get to him, Art the Clown shoots himself. The sole survivor is Victoria, who is severely disfigured after Art attacks her. The second movie takes place a year after the events of the first and follows Sienna and her brother, Jonathan. During the movie, Art kills over six people and injures Sienna and Jonathan. At the end of the movie, Sienna decapitates Art the Clown, but in the after-credits scene,Victoria births the head of Art the Clown.

If you are easily disgusted, scared, or dislike body horror you should not go see this movie. Like with the past movies in the franchise, there is excessive gore that left even me, a horror movie enthusiast, shaken and nauseous. Adults, teens, children and animals are killed in this movie. There are depictions of death by explosion, cannibalism, scalping, mutilation, decapitation and being frozen by liquid nitrogen before being hacked to death. There are reports of viewers vomiting and having to leave the theater. Just know that you have been warned.

Image via printerval.com

In my personal opinion, this was one of the scariest movies I have watched. As I was watching it I had to hide and peek over my sweatshirt. This is mainly because the film focused on the scary parts and hardly dwelled on the storyline. This is why the series is so great and also why it is so flawed. It satisfies the desire that horror movie fans have to ‘just get to the scary part!’ However, it also leaves the viewer confused about the plot and characters. I didn’t remember anything other than the gore from the first two movies. Another gripe I have with this film is that it takes place during Christmas, unlike the other films that take place during Halloween. I feel that the movie was supposed to come out during Christmas, but due to the lack of marketing, it doesn’t present itself as a Christmas horror movie. More people are likely to go to see a horror film around Halloween. Weirdly, the setting of Christmas in the movie made me excited for the winter. Mostly because I love the juxtaposition of the cheeriness of winter with the grisly murders.

“Terrifier 3” leaves its viewers shocked, disgusted and confused about how to react. If you are a horror fan that loves exaggerated gore, you will love this movie. However, if you go see it in theaters maybe skip the popcorn, as this movie isn’t the best to eat to. If you decide to snack, remember to clean up after yourself.

Blithe Spirit at Forman Theater
Alana M. Carroll
Staff Writer

The RIC Mainstage started off the spooky month of October with a production of “Blithe Spirit” by Noel Coward at the Helen Forman Theater. This two-act play was directed by Casey Seymour Kim and performed entirely by actors enrolled at Rhode Island College.

From the moment one enters the theater, they are immediately transported to England in the 1940s. There is no doubt about the social status of our protagonists; both acts take place in their ornate parlor in Kent. Exquisite paintings adorn the walls, a vase of bright and healthy-looking flowers sit proudly on the table in the center and classical music from the era fills the room. Birds sing and crickets hum from the double doors at the edge of the set and a golden chandelier hangs from the ceiling, making it easy for the viewer to forget that they are in fact not a houseguest.

The lights attract the viewers attention away from the set as they are introduced to the first two characters: clumsy yet well-intentioned housekeeper Edith (Kayla Botelho) and stunningly-posh Ruth Condomine (Abigail Saccone). Her husband Charles Condomine (Samuel F. Wright) has invited a medium to perform a seance as inspiration for a novel he is writing. Also in attendance are Dr. Bradmin (Steven Cere) and Lady Bradmin (Mariana Villa Jaramillo), friends of the Condomines, and all agree to pretend that they have full faith in the authenticity of the supernatural.

It is not long before our clairvoyant Madame Arcati (Aida Menacho) steals the show with her eccentric yet effective methods of connecting with the deceased. Through her powers the audience finally meets Elvira Condomine (Emma McKay), the first wife of Charles who is only perceivable to him and the audience, of course. Mayhem ensues as Charles tries desperately to convince his skeptic friends that the apparition of his first wife is indeed real and wrestles with his feelings for Elvira, feelings that will ultimately come between him and Ruth and threaten their relationship.

Not only are the costumes for the show breathtaking and era-appropriate, but they also tell a story without words; Arcati’s red

Image via printerval.com

sequins and loose trousers contrast starkly with the cool-toned, flowing gowns of Ruth and Mrs. Bracknell, emphasizing her whimsy and offering a refreshing reprieve from the stoicness of the cast.

Upon Elvira’s appearance, it’s difficult to look anywhere but at her flowy orange gown that matches her hair, the color complimentary to the blues elsewhere on set. The fabric used to make the gown has a color-shifting element to it, making it appear almost green as she twirls and flounces about, further putting in the spotlight that she is in fact a spirit. It may be Charles whose costumes have the most telling change, becaus (Continued on anchorweb.org)

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Bloody good slasher films

Rachel Curti
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Slashers are among one of the more well-known subgenres of horror. The typical slasher film usually surrounds a killer hunting and killing other characters. For this second week of October, here are some slashers you may not have seen and some you may want to rewatch.

"Fear Street" (2021)

Netflix's "Fear Street" trilogy depicts a story that spans over 300 years. While the story itself begins in 1666, it isn't shown until the third installment, sewing all of the points and characters together. The story starts in 1994 and follows Kiana Madiera's character Deena as she tries to save her ex-girlfriend from the newest killer plaguing their town. The second film is set in 1978 and follows Sadie Sink's character Ziggy, who you may recognize as Max from "Stranger Things." Throughout the story, we are introduced to a wide variety of characters and killers. Each character is well crafted and important to the story in some way or another.

Even though it is a slasher, "Fear Street" has important LGBTQ+ plot points and relationships that create a connection between the characters and the viewer. The movies follow strong female leads and their quest to overcome not just killers but troubled relationships, homophobia, bullying and so much more.

Image via Pexels.com

"X" (2022)

"X" follows protagonist Maxine played by Mia Goth, who also plays the old woman Pearl, and a group of adult filmmakers as they set to film on an unsettling farm. Something about the owner of the farm and his wife seem off. This is one of those movies that makes you question the characters, as many of them could have survived had they made different decisions at different points of the film. "X" falls into the category of horror that is based on characters making bad decisions. The film also follows the "final girl" trope. It is a stereotypical slasher but with a unique cast of characters in an odd situation.

The film itself is incredibly uncomfortable at parts, and leaves room to wonder what the motives of the killers are. Throughout the film this becomes more clear, and is further answered in the later released prequel, "Pearl" (2022), which feels slightly less bloody than the original. The third movie, "MaXXXine", was released earlier this year, and follows the story of Maxine after the events of "X". However, "X" can definitely act as a stand alone movie.

"Freaky" (2020)

Starring Kathryn Newton as protagonist Millie and Vince Vaughn as The Butcher, "Freaky" is a body-swap slasher. Innocent Millie encounters The Butcher which leaves them in the other's body. Millie seeks out her friends for help, and after much difficulty, gains their trust only to discover she has only 24 hours before the change becomes permanent.

A lot of this movie's charm comes from Millie and The Butcher struggling to cope with being in different bodies. It's entertaining to watch both the innocent girl suddenly become dark and mysterious as it is to watch the killer show kindness only to be met with terror. There are a lot of silly, maybe even cringe-worthy moments but it's quite entertaining– especially listening to Vince Vaughn talk like a gen-z teenage girl. Vaughn and Newton are impressive in their abilities to play both polar opposite roles.

"Thanksgiving" (2023)

A year after a tragic Black Friday, a killer seems to be taking revenge on those involved. Jessica, played by Nell Verlaque, was at the event with a group of friends. Her father being the owner of the store that decided to stay open on Thanksgiving puts a large target on her back. Along with her ex-boyfriend, Jessica works with the sheriff, played by Patrick Dempsey, to hunt down the killer before he can claim any more victims.

The language in this movie was startling at first, but after finding out it takes place in Massachusetts, it almost makes it forgivable. That, combined with the fake Boston accents, are wildly entertaining. This movie has some intense gore that will make you squirm, if you don't look away. The violence is creative and unexpected, more so than the other slasher films on this list. It is rich in dark humor, a statement on capitalist America and almost satirical in nature. It's worth a watch but know that the violence is intense right from the get go.

If you are craving a scary movie that will have you on the edge of your seat, one of these slashers might be for you.

OPINIONS

OCD Awareness Week: how to be an ally

Roman Kavanagh
Opinions Editor

Have you ever watched one of those "satisfying" compilations with the caption "This fixed my OCD?" Has your friend ever told you she's "so OCD" for organizing her notes into a color-coded system? These are all common phrases we use in day-to-day life, but we don't often consider the harmfulness of these sentiments.

Image via OCD Awareness SVG Cut file by Creative Fabrica Crafts

Many people think of OCD and the image that comes to mind is one of a meticulously clean room, a perfectly aligned row of pencils or a person washing their hands while counting in their head. In reality, OCD is a disorder much more complicated than matters of cleanliness and orderliness.

What is OCD?

The following characteristics have been taken directly from the DSM-5.

Obsessive-compulsive disorder "is characterized by the presence of obsessions and/or compulsions." But what does this mean?

Obsessions are "recurrent and persistent thoughts, urges or images that are experienced as intrusive and unwanted."

Compulsions are "repetitive behaviors or mental acts that an individual feels driven to perform in response to an obsession."

In the stereotypical example we often hear, the obsession is the thought "my hands are dirty," and the compulsion is washing them over and over again.

OCD Day-to-day: Student Interview

In conversation with Kelly Picozzi, a RIC freshman who has been diagnosed with OCD, she underlines what it's like to actually live with the disorder and the lesser-known aspects of it.

"I think one of the most difficult and debilitating (aspects of OCD) is the ego-dystonic subset: intrusive thoughts which are opposite to a person's values and concepts." People on TikTok have been using the phrase "intrusive thoughts" to mean "impulsive thoughts," not necessarily recognizing the severity that real intrusive thoughts hold.

The point of these intrusive thoughts is that they attack a person's morals and values, echoing their worst fears back at them in an attempt to make them feel like someone they're not. "Sometimes, I'll have an intrusive thought about hurting the people I care about, or that I'm going to abduct a child, something I'd never want to do or feel…so the compulsion would be to avoid my loved ones, avoid children and seclude myself so others don't get hurt." Kelly, like any other college Freshman, is a lovely and caring individual who enjoys making art, analyzing movies and reading. This disorder can affect anyone and doesn't reflect at all on who the person is inside.

Everybody has certain habits they've developed over time, but the difference is, with OCD, the stakes of these habits are incredibly high. For instance, Kelly described experiencing "physical compulsions like if I blink long enough or enough times then it won't be true, I'm not a kidnapper (or) a murderer." These behaviors can feel highly irrational to somebody without OCD, but to those with the disorder, they are very real and terrifying.

OCD affects every aspect of life, to an extent most can't imagine. "Sometimes (my compulsions) involve involuntarily jerking my head or neck, or talking to myself…it affects how I blink, how I breathe and even how I'm 'allowed' to walk." This incredibly pervasive disorder is so profoundly damaging to those who experience (Continued on anchorweb.org)

LGBTQ+ rights are in jeopardy with this year's Senate elections

Roman Kavanagh
Opinions Editor

The New York Times is currently tracking the seven closest races for Senate in Arizona, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. According to their reports, there are two key states which could tilt the scales and effectively end the Democrat's majority control: Michigan and Ohio.

Michigan is among the traditional "swing states," divided among Democrat, Republican and Centrist voters. Ohio, on the other hand, is an unusual "tossup" state, as since 2020 it has been thought to be solidified as a Republican state.

In Michigan, fresh blood has entered the race. Following the upcoming retirement of Incumbent Sen. Debbie Stabenow (current Michigan Senator), Michigan is facing the first open Senate race for this position since 1994. Former Republican Rep. Mike Rogers is facing off against Democratic Rep. Elissa Slotkins.

In Ohio, Incumbent Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown faces Republican challenger Bernie Moreno. Moreno has been endorsed by Donald Trump and JD Vance, gaining unexpected popularity as a result. The Incumbent may lose this particular race.

How this impacts LGBTQ+ rights:

In 2024, 658 anti-trans bills were circulated across the U.S. (with 274 carrying over from 2023). Out of these 658, 80 have been introduced on a federal level.

Presently, Republicans control the House of Representatives with a slim majority. If the Senate falls to the Conservatives as well, the likelihood of these nationwide anti-trans bills passing would skyrocket.

These bills include everything from healthcare, sports, education and even civil rights. You can read the individual bills on translegislation.com, by utilizing their "2024 anti-trans bills tracker."

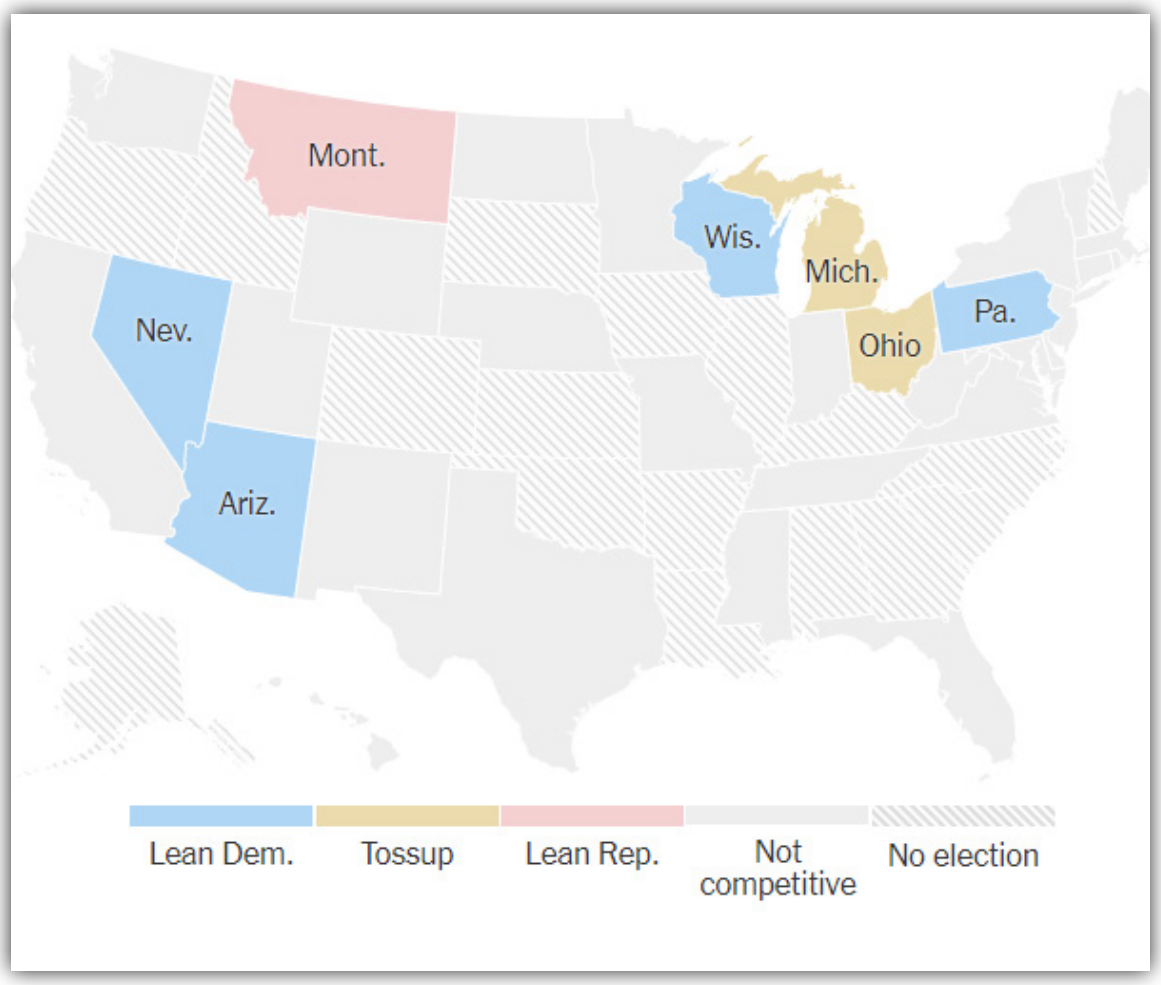


Image via NYT

OPINIONS

School shootings and anxiety

Alana M. Carroll
Staff Writer

Rhode Island College students and faculty received a startling series of alerts sent to both their email inboxes and smartphones Tuesday Oct. 5 with the words "EMERGENCY: ACTIVE THREAT." The first warning arrived at 11:18 a.m. to much confusion and alarm.

Although the warning was specifically for the Rhode Island Nursing and Education Center on Eddy Street, the initial message only included an abbreviation of "RI NEC" as well as instructions to avoid that specific area of campus. Some mistakenly believed that the warning referred to a building on the main campus. Though an "ALL CLEAR" message was received approximately half an hour later with an explanation email from the campus police shortly after, some were still left shaken.

Image via Flickr.com

The report given by the school and campus police stated that there was no active perpetrator, but rather a threat submitted to the school via an online forum, which was described as "unsubstantiated". Though the RI NEC was evacuated, students were allowed to reenter the building and continue classes as scheduled once the active threat warning was dismissed.

According to the Providence Police Department, an active threat is defined as "any deliberate actions that pose an immediate or imminent danger to others." It's no surprise that the immediate idea that came to mind across campus was a terrifying one. After all, with the most recent school shooting having occurred only a month prior in Winder, Georgia, students are wary. Given the increasing frequency of gun violence around the United States, as well as the growing death tolls caused by mass shootings, they have every right to be.

This scare comes just over a week after campus police were called to Penfield Hall for a similar incident: a report of gunshots. Another email was sent to students addressed to those who live on campus with a brief explanation of the situation. According to this email, the "gunshots" reported by a student in an adjacent room were actually balloons popping. It also contained phone numbers for the RIC counseling department and the RIC HOPE line, respectively.

In a 2019 study by the American Psychological Association, it was found that nearly three-quarters of adults in the United States experience an elevated amount of stress at the idea of being in a shooting. Similarly, one-third of participants have avoided an event or gathering as a result of this emotional strain. Of the locations that adults felt most apprehensive towards, schools and universities fell near the top of the list with approximately 42% of adults reporting fearing a shooting in these environments.

Anxiety in general is detrimental to school performance for students of all ages. The mind of a student occupied by the latest gun violence story on the news or the likelihood of such an event happening at their school can distract from lessons, lectures and assignments. Anxiety can also cause physical side effects, such as headaches, nausea, trembling, hot flashes or increased breath or heart rate. Physical ailments such as those caused by anxiety can contribute to even more time spent out of the classroom. The condition is detrimental to memory, so even if a student is actively engaging with the class and turning in assignments, there's a sizable chance that the material being studied is not being fully encoded. Difficulties with sleep are particularly detrimental to academic performance and memory. Anxiety contributes to sleep disturbances, which in turn impact memory and can trigger stronger feelings of anxiety, trapping students in a vicious cycle.

What can be done to manage these worries that have become so commonplace among students?

Validating these worries is important, yet equally important is emphasizing how unlikely these situations are to be in. Although these odds have increased since 1970, the odds of dying in a school shooting are less than one-in-a-million. In response to the increased rate of these events, stronger safety measures have been adopted, including at RIC; the rapid response of campus police to both of the scares this semester is evidence of that. Talking to a counselor is recommended for anxiety that substantially impacts day-to-day life. Counseling services are available to students for free at Suite 100 in Browne Hall.

Anxiety can feel debilitating and cause strain in almost all areas of a person's life, especially when these anxieties are affirmed by the news on a weekly basis. Including the assistance of treatment and adopting coping mechanisms, however, it can be managed, dealt with and even eliminated.

SPORTS

Jackson Fox scores lone goal as Anchormen down UMass Dartmouth, 1-0

Timothy Yean
Sports Editor

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – In the return of four key playmakers for Rhode Island College, Jackson Fox was the guy to make the big play, with his goal in the 66th minute enough to down UMass Dartmouth in a 1-0 defensive standoff and improve their standing to 5-1 in the Little East.

The Anchormen hosted UMass Dartmouth for their 7 pm matchup Wednesday night, returning home after their 2-1 win over the University of Southern Maine this past Saturday, sailing past the Huskies despite the absences of Tariq Adio, Jackson Fo and Sekou Kamara in the shorthanded victory. Sophomore defender Alijah Nunes was also out with injury but returned tonight along with the other three Anchormen mentioned.

The 2-7-3 Corsairs (0-3-2 LEC) looked to find some traction at Alumni Field after a 4-2 bludgeoning by Western Connecticut State at home on Oct. 12th.

With Rhode Island College starting Little East Goalkeeper of the Week Wesley Perrotto and UMass Dartmouth starting junior Ethan Donahue, the Corsairs began with possession in the first half and was able to stay inside Anchormen territory early but were unable to get past Perrotto and the defense despite some early shots on goal and corner kicks.

About twenty minutes into the first half, the Anchormen began to show some offensive aggression as they were able to wrangle back time of possession but Donahue and the Corsairs made it difficult, Donahue saving multiple shots on goal with the UMass Dartmouth defense smothering any other offensive opportunity.

About 35 minutes into the first half, the junior forward Kamara missed off his shot from the right side of the field, the rebound opportunity from senior midfielder Anthony Recinos would just off the left crossbar as it looked like Donahue made a play on it at the last moment. Ten minutes later, it would be scoreless entering the half, with both teams showing no break in their defense.

Entering the second half, it looked to be the same story as UMass Dartmouth had some early looks at their first goal of the matchup with none being sent in as RIC continued to play strong on defense.

Jackson Fox was able to finally put a goal on the board for the Anchormen, sending the ball past Donahue in the 66th minute for an unassisted first goal for Rhode Island College bringing them with a 1-nothing lead.

In the final five minutes of the match, the Corsairs desperately aimed to tie, amping up their aggressiveness on offense, yet it was not enough for the RIC defense was consistently able to break down UMass Dartmouth's attack looks and smother on corner kicks, ending the match with the ball inside Corsair territory and away with the 1-0 win.

RIC was able to hammer Donahue with eight shots on goal on a total 23 shots versus three shots on goal for right total shots by UMass Dartmouth. Donahue recorded seven saves compared to Perrotto's three.

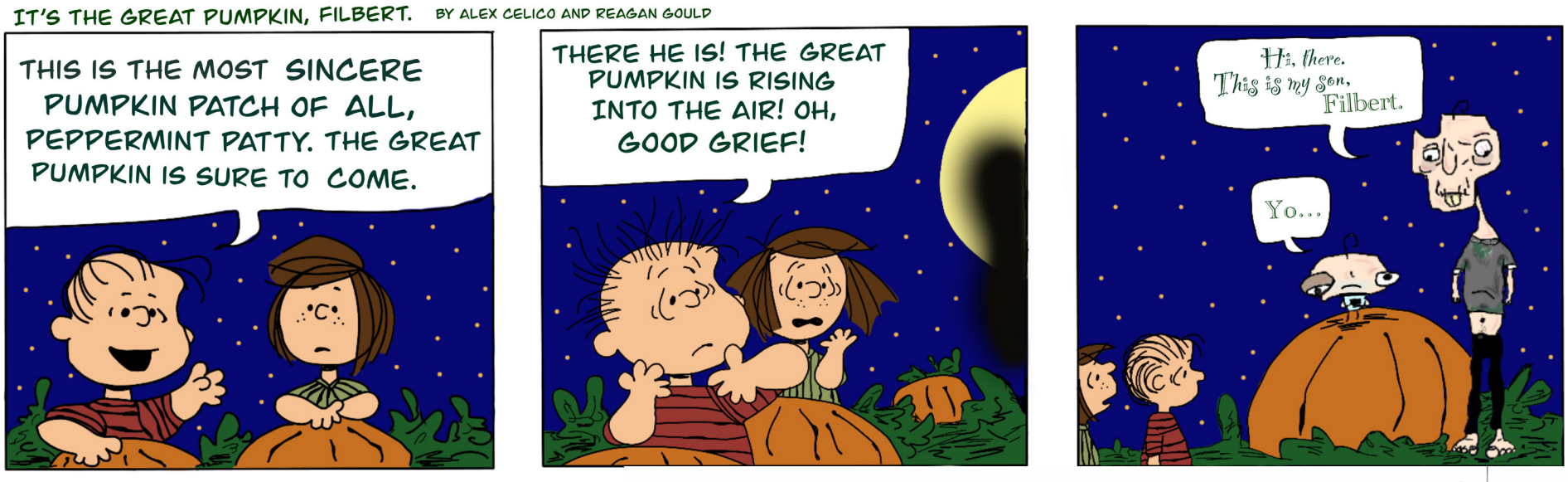
The Corsairs drop to 0-3-2 in Little East play and will stay in-conference for their third consecutive LEC matchup against VTSU Castleton Saturday. The Anchormen bump up to 5-1 in conference play and look to add another win to their total regular season record when they host Coast Guard for a 3 pm contest.

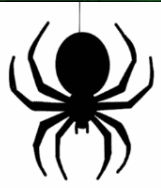
For more news on not only athletics at RIC but across campus, visit anchorweb.org and follow @rictheanchor on Instagram for more.

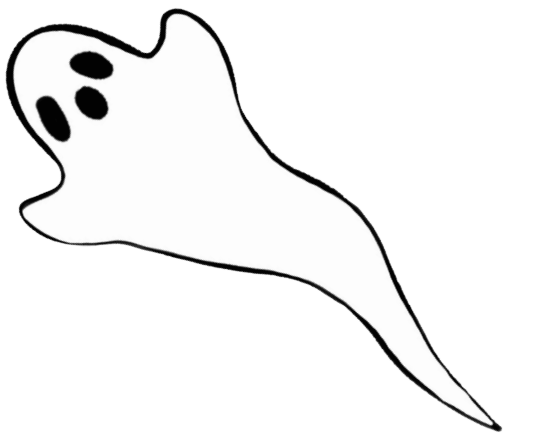
Image via goanchormen.com

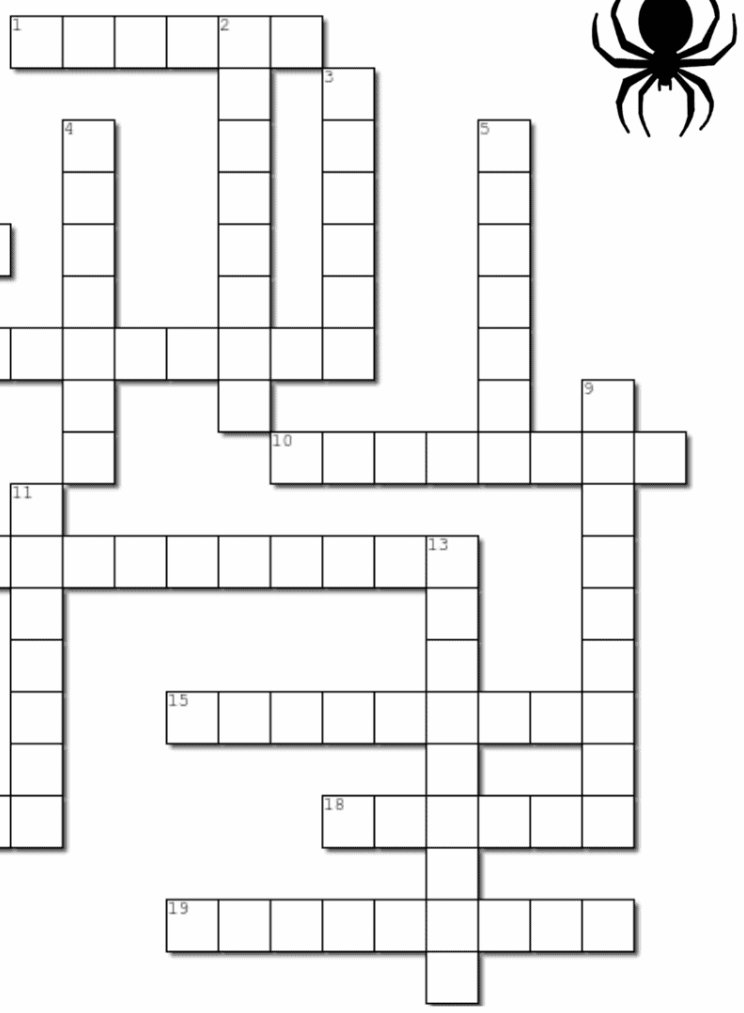
FUN AND COMICS

IT'S THE GREAT PUMPKIN, FILBERT. BY ALEX CELICO AND REAGAN GOULD


THIS IS THE MOST SINCERE PUMPKIN PATCH OF ALL, PEPPERMINT PATTY. THE GREAT PUMPKIN IS SURE TO COME.
THERE HE IS! THE GREAT PUMPKIN IS RISING INTO THE AIR! OH, GOOD GRIEF!
Hi, there. This is my son, Filbert.
Yo...







Across

1. A color connected to Halloween
6. The woman with snakes as hair
8. Name of a popular haunted female doll
10. Where witches make their potion
12. "It's Alive!"
15. A fictional superhuman that saves people
17. A reptile-like legendary creature that breathes fire
18. The living dead
19. Scooby Doo helped solved these

Down

2. A gigantic dinosaur-like monster originating in Japan
3. What the grim reaper carries
4. Half Woman, Half Fish
5. A place frequented by a ghost
6. The brightest object in the sky at night
7. A dummy used to scare birds
9. An inscribed stone standing or laid over a grave
11. A magical horse with horns
13. A scary dream
14. _____ the 13th
16. A creature with magic powers and wings

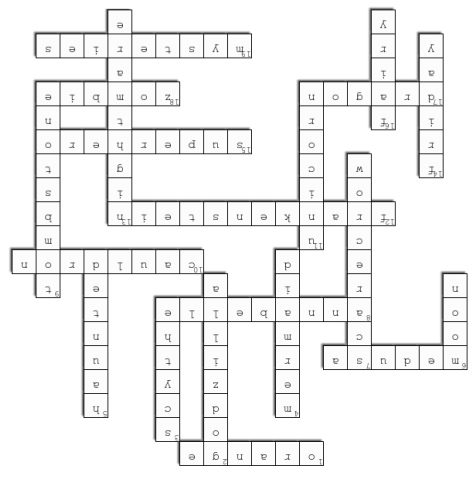
Copyright© crazylaura.com

Across

1. A color connected to Halloween (**orange**)
6. The woman with snakes as hair (**medusa**)
8. Name of a popular haunted female doll (**annabelle**)
10. Where witches make their potion (**cauldron**)
12. "It's Alive!" (**frankenstein**)
15. A fictional superhuman that saves people (**superhero**)
17. A reptile-like legendary creature that breathes fire (**dragon**)
18. The living dead (**zombie**)
19. Scooby Doo helped solved these (**mysteries**)

Down

2. A gigantic dinosaur-like monster originating in Japan (**godzilla**)
3. What the grim reaper carries (**scythe**)
4. Half Woman, Half Fish (**mermaid**)
5. A place frequented by a ghost (**haunted**)
6. The brightest object in the sky at night (**moon**)
7. A dummy used to scare birds (**scarecrow**)
9. An inscribed stone standing or laid over a grave (**tombstone**)
11. A magical horse with horns (**unicorn**)
13. A scary dream (**nightmare**)
14. _____ the 13th (**friday**)
16. A creature with magic powers and wings (**fairy**)



NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
1	2	3	2024 ELECTION Navigating Concerns and Finding Stratgies at Don Faculty Dining Room 12-1:30 4	ELECTION DAY Election Returns Watch 7-11 at Beestro 5	6	Veterns Day Ceremony 12:30-1:30 Murray Steps OBOM Ryka Aoki Visit 4:30-6:30 Gaige 100 7
First Gen Day 11-1 Donovan RIC Symphony Orchestra 7:30-9 Sapinsley Hall 8	LASO Coco Movie Night 6-8 Ballroom 9	10	11	12	13	14
Warner's Inauguration 1-2 Roberts Auditorium 15	16	17	18	RIC Wind Esemble 7:30 - 9 Sapinsley Hall 19	20	Rocky Horror Movie Night 7:30-9:30 Gaige 100 Into The Woods 7:30-9:30 Forman Theater 21
22 Into the Woods Continued RIC Chamber Singers 7:30 -9:30 Sapinsley Hall 29	23 Into the Woods 1-4 7:30 - 9:30 30	24 Into the Woods 1-4 1	25 Thanksgiving Break Ends 2	26 3	27 4	28 Thanksgiving Break Begins 5